GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:536
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2008
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE TO IRRIGATION PROJECTS
Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irrigation project proposals received from various States including Andhra Pradesh awaiting environmental clearance from the Union Government;

(b) the current status of these projects, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared by the Union Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA).

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.536 due for reply on 30/04/2008 regarding 'Environmental Clearance to Irrigation Projects'.

(a) & (b) During the last two years i.e. 2006 and 2007, 18 irrigation projects have been received in the Ministry for seeking environmental clearance under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification of January, 1994 and of September, 2006. Out of these, 16 have been granted environmental clearance. As on date, only two projects namely Jihe Kathpur Lift Irrigation Scheme of Maharashtra and Dwarakeswar Irrigation Project of West Bengal are awaiting environmental clearance due to non-submission of information by the project authorities.No irrigation project of Andhra Pradesh is pending for environmental clearance.

(c) Decisions for clearance of proposals are taken based on the recommendations of the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for River Valley and Hydroelectric Projects, which holds regular monthly meetings to examine the cases. The EIA Notification, 2006 provides for a time limit of 105 days for taking decision after receipt of complete information from the project proponent.